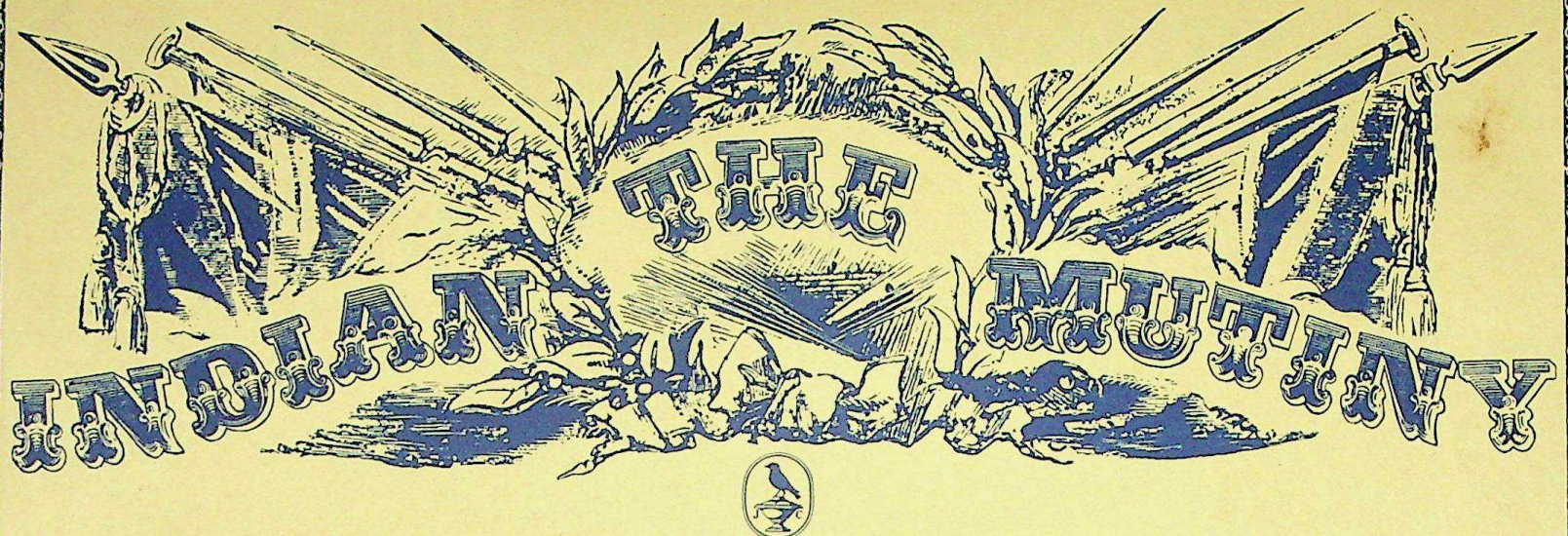




Jackdaw No. 22
Jonathan Cape, Thirty Bedford Square, London

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Reproduced by courtesy of the owner, Sir Claude B. R. Pelly, G.B.E., M.C.
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- 5 Pages from George Francklin Atkinson's *The Campaign in India*
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- 6 Muslims and Hindus: an outline of religious beliefs and the caste system
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- 8 Six Broadsheets:
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5 The British Reaction / 6 The Results of the Mutiny



NOTES ON THE EXHIBITS

- 1 The letter smuggled out of Cawnpore. This letter, written by a Mrs George Larkins, wife of the Commander of the Artillery Division at Cawnpore, was written on June 9th, the fourth day of the actual siege. General Wheeler, in command at Cawnpore, had chosen two single-storey buildings (see photograph in Exhibit 7), one of them thatched, in which to resist the sepoy attack. Around them he built a mud wall four feet high and three feet thick. It is difficult to understand why he chose these buildings instead of the near-by arsenal, an immense walled enclosure which was protected at its rear by the river Ganges. The rebels attacked on June 6th, and on the 8th they succeeded in setting fire to the thatched roof. Mrs Larkins, who was killed with her children when the British left their enclosure thinking they were on their way to Allahabad, gave the letter to her ayah Uluma, who delivered it to the Governor of Bombay (Mrs Larkins's brother), asking for an interview with him. He refused to see the stranger, thinking it might be a plot, and she disappeared without trace until the story was discovered by chance many years later. On each side of the sheet the letter has been written both horizontally and vertically, enabling more to be written on a single sheet of paper. This was quite a common practice at the time.
- 2 A page from General Neill's diary. This official India Office transcript of Neill's journal shows the entries for July 3rd and 4th, 1857. Note the references at the end of the July 3rd and beginning of July 4th entries to hanging and cutting up sepoys.
- 3 *The Times*, August 31st, 1857. This edition carries dispatches and reports which had left India four to seven weeks earlier. Page 7 is largely given over to editorial comment on the Mutiny.
- 4 A letter from Agra to General Neill at Cawnpore. In an effort to prevent any Indian who might be able to read English from understanding this letter the political agent at Gwalior has spelt out the more important words in the Greek alphabet. In the first sentence the coded words read Sindia, Gwalior, demanded, move, Agra and eighteenth. If you check against the Greek alphabet given on the back of the letter you will find it easy to transcribe the message.
- 5 Pages from *The Campaign In India*. These pages from Captain Atkinson's book of drawings reflect the British attitude to the sepoy: a patronizing admiration, with a total lack of understanding. The representation of sepoys in these pictures is near to caricature. It is interesting to note that at this time the conquering British still thought it perfectly proper that they should appropriate the belongings of the Indians as spoils of war (last picture).
- 6 Muslim and Hindu religions and the caste system. This Exhibit deals with the main points of both religions, but it should be remembered that, as with all religious faiths, there are countless sects each of which has variations in belief and religious practice.
- 7 Photographs taken in India in 1858. These pictures were taken by an English photographer called Beato, who followed the relieving forces through the area of the Mutiny in 1857.

BOOKS TO READ

- Edwardes, Michael, *Battles of the Indian Mutiny* (Batsford, 1963)
- Hilton, Major-General Richard, *The Indian Mutiny* (Hollis & Carter, 1957)
- Russell, William Howard, *My Indian Mutiny Diary*, edited by Michael Edwardes (Cassell, 1957)
- Sen, Surendra Nath, *Eighteen Fifty-Seven* (Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Government of India, New Delhi, 1957). This book has an extensive bibliography
- Thompson, Edward, *The Other Side of the Medal* (Hogarth Press, 1925)
- 1857 *A Pictorial Presentation* (Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Government of India, New Delhi, 1957)

THINK FOR YOURSELF

- 1 If you had been a typical sepoy soldier, faithful to your officers, devoted to military life but also true to your religion, how would you have felt when the Mutiny began?
- 2 What effects do you think the Mutiny had on (a) the Indian mind, (b) the British mind, in the struggle for independence?
- 3 Compare the way the news reached England in 1857 with the way it would come today.
- 4 Write a message in the code used in Exhibit 4. Why would this code have been useful in India but useless in Britain?
- 5 Find out some of the difficulties which religion and caste still cause in modern India.

JACKDAWS

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* In Preparation

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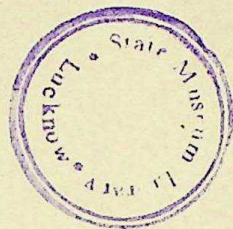
Transcript

Cawnpore 9th June 1857

I write this dearest Henrietta in the belief
that our time of departure is come
the whole of the troops rose here
& we took refuge in a barrack.
We are so hemmed in by overpowering
numbers that there seems no hope
of escape. Only about forty European
soldiers are left of one hundred &
twenty men a sad sad number
to hold out against such an awful
enemy. Many joined the cavalry
& infantry & they have six guns
against us. The walls are going.
This is an awful hour my darling
Henrietta, Jessie Emily & Georgie
cling to us. Dearest George has been
well up till today out day & night
but he is I grieve to say obliged

remember your Creator in
the days of your youth seek him
till you can say I have found
him & Ellen my little lamb
I must not see you again in
the flesh but remember that I shall
look for you where sorrow or
disappointment can never enter.
Harry dear boy my heart yearns
over you, oh dear boy if you saw
the position your little brother & sisters
are in at this moment you would
weep over ever having pleased
your own desires, seek your god & saviour

to abandon his post - this so
it was a grief - many brave men
have fallen today. The siege has
lasted four days - & let this be
warning to your government
never again to place British officers
& men in such a pitiable position.
Only 120 European soldiers at
Cawnpore! It is sad & painful
to reflect on that our lives are to be
sacrificed in such a condition.
Give my love to my sweet girls -
tell them that there is but one
thing needful - tell them to seek
searching that faith true & steadfast
an anchor of the soul - Conny darling
your Mama has longed to see &
know you, seek your god & saviour
in spirit. Alice my sweet child



serve & follow Him & always hate
 whatever is sinful - dearest Henrietta
 we leave them all in the hands of God
 & your tender watching. My dying
 love to all my dear friends. Dearest
 Charlotte - we hope to meet & part
 no more where we shall serve our
 god without weariness. Dearest Mrs.
 Manning - the same to you. I would
 say - dearest Mrs. Larkins I got your
 last letter it pained me but I feel
 with all our sins & frailties I have
 been faithful to you & to Georgie perhaps
 his best Earthly friend - we hope to meet
 where all imperfections are washed away -
 peace dearest Henrietta that passeth knowledge be
 with you my gratitude to you is unbounded

July 3rd

Friday 3rd

"After some difficulty, and extra
exertions, to proceeding with great
caution steamer arrived today. It sails
about 10 A.M. with 5 boats in tow, with
provisions for Wheeler's force. x x Renard,
if Campfire is full on, should move on
Fulchpure, and there wait Gen^l Havelock's
force ordered a siege train to be established
here, at Brown to organise it. x x Major
Stirling and Head Quarters of the 64th in,
also Lt. Hamilton of the 78th, my seniors.
Gen^l Havelock's force 684 of the 64th - only
500 are as yet up - 200 Fusiliers and 220
of the 78th with — byons. I am left
with 237 Fusiliers, and 183 of 84th, and
troops daily coming in. I shall push on
when I have sufficient men. x x Royal
Artillery men 21 under Captⁿ Maude
arrive. The General wishes to have 6
guns before he advances, hope he will send
back the Veteran artillery men. x x
Letter from Renard dated yesterday
getting on well, has sent up no end of them
and hanged several Sepoys of the 6th x x

Saturday 4th. Hear from Renard, getting on well,
but halted by order of General, has sent
up several, and hanged a great many,
the Sikhs have behaved very well indeed. x x
x x Telegraph to Com^{dr} in Chief repeating
my regret at force not going on, and
suggesting that 3 guns the half battery
from Benares might be sent up. x x As
the troops move out to camp on the glacier
our Indian very good style indeed.



THE GREEK ALPHABET

A	α	alpha	=	a	N	ν	nū	=	n
B	β	bēta	=	b	Ξ	ξ	xī	=	x (ks)
Γ	γ	gamma	=	g	O	o	omīcron	=	o
Δ	δ	delta	=	d	Π	π	pī	=	p
E	ϵ	epsilon	=	e	P	ρ	rhō	=	r
Z	ζ	zēta	=	z	Σ	σ s	sigma	=	s
H	η	ēta	=	ē	T	τ	tau	=	t
Θ	θ θ	thēta	=	th	Υ	υ	upsilon	=	u
I	ι	iōta	=	i	Φ	ϕ	phī	=	ph
K	κ	kappa	=	k	X	χ	chī	=	kh
Λ	λ	lambda	=	l	Ψ	ψ	psī	=	ps
M	μ	mū	=	m	Ω	ω	ōmega	=	ō

Solent Mill Campore

Apr 12nd Sept 1857

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My dear Sir I beg you will have the goodness to forward by Electric
Telegraph to Calcutta the accompanying message & also to
communicate it to Genl. Hamlock or Sir J. Outram if in command
of the troops. Yrs. sincerely
From Agra

Political Agent Gwalior

to Calcutta

Secy to Govt Foreign Dept.

Ordia intimates on the eighth of September that on the seventh
the yadav rebels secured absolutely supplies & carriage to
move against agra on the eighth. Ordia was able
to induce one battalion, two companies, two yorv and the
cavalry all before partially gained to remain quiet but two regiments
and six batteries prepared their yorv and the messenger says
that next morning they hoisted the green flag and advanced
twenty yorv towards the wadao and ordia, and demanded
under a threat to withdraw the latter, carriage, supplies, and
seven lakhs of rupees. Ordia is moving against the
artillery and magazine of the rebels, and about five thousand
of his regular troops are engaged with them. Hence their defeat
after the eighth despite of every effort is probably known.
The Indore rebels are still in shot 'on and say they move
upon agra. I hear from Delhi that on the eighth the King
sent an order by two officers apparently largely escorted
summoning the Indore and Gwalior rebels to come instantly
to Delhi. The rebellion for the advance of troops towards
agra from Kanpur or Delhi continues to be imperative.

